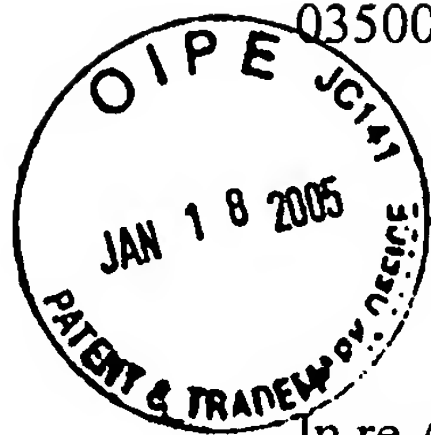


03500.017490

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

SHINJI HASHIGUCHI ET AL.

Application No.: 10/638,420

Filed: August 12, 2003

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS
WITH HEATER HAVING BIAS
APPLYING PORTION SETTING BIAS
BASED ON SHEET WIDTH
(As Amended)

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Examiner: William J. Royer

)
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Group Art Unit: 2852

)
:
Confirmation No.: 5192

)
:
January 18, 2005

Mail Stop RCE
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
SUBMISSION OF SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION
AND
SUBMISSION OF REPLACEMENT FORMAL DRAWINGS

Sir:

Prior to further examination on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully
requested to consider and enter the following amendments:

IN THE TITLE:

Please amend the title to read as follows:

--IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS WITH HEATER HAVING BIAS
APPLYING PORTION SETTING BIAS BASED ON SHEET WIDTH--